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THE NEWS IN LONDON.

ONLY A SLENDER CHANCE OF PEACE—THE RUSSIAN POSITION.

SIR PETER LUMSDEN RETREATING TO KUSAN—THE RUSSIAN POSITION IN COMMAND OF ROBAT PASS—THE ROAD TO HERAT OPEN.

[BY CABLE TO THE TRIBUNE.]

LONDON, April 11.—General Komaroff's attack on the Afghans is regarded in every capital of Europe as an act of war. In no well informed quarter here or abroad is there any but the faintest hope of peace. Mr. Gladstone's language and manner alike in the House of Commons on Thursday convinced everybody that he is himself convinced that war is all but inevitable. Nothing has since occurred to diminish the probability.

THE PENJENH BATTLE.

Mr. Gladstone said yesterday that the information was first incomplete and secondly not perfectly clear, but the essential facts are known and no man has succeeded in explaining them consistently with good faith on the part of Russia. General Komaroff's statement that he was compelled to attack in consequence of aggressive action on the part of the Afghans is directly contradicted by Sir Peter Lumsden's account. The military and diplomatic authorities accept as conclusive Sir Peter Lumsden's statement that the Afghans since March 17 have made no forward movement of any kind, while before the affair of March 30, the Russians tried all means to induce the Afghans to begin the fight. The presence of the English officers with the Afghans at Penjenh would itself settle the question that they were aware of "the agreement to maintain the status quo on both sides. They vainly tried to persuade the Russians, who denied all knowledge of such an agreement, to abide by it. Their report proves that they considered the Afghan movements within the terms of the agreement and purely defensive. Assuming then that General Komaroff was in the wrong the question of war or peace depends on the answer of two questions: Will Russia offer any reparation? and what reparation would be accepted?

WHAT ENGLAND DEMANDS.

The English request for an explanation embodied no terms, but English opinion is nearly unanimous that a formal disavowal of General Komaroff's act, a formal expression of regret and a complete restoration of the previous military position constitute the minimum of apology. Nobody believes that General Komaroff acted without either orders or an assurance of support, whether from the Czar or from those surrounding him, who are in a position to force his hand. Technicalities go for little. The conviction here is general that Russia thought the crushing of an Afghan division would be the readiest answer to the imposing and aggressive demonstration at Rawul-Pindi.

RUSSIAN ADVANTAGES OF POSITION.

That dishonest victory on the Kushk secures for Russia the most important position in the debatable territory. Russia to-day is master of the entire country between the Murghab and the Heri-Kud. Sir Peter Lumsden has been forced to retire from Gulran (Gurlin), where he commanded Robat Pass, to Kusan, leaving the road to Herat open. The Russian force south of Merv is enormously greater than was suspected. It is evident that masses of troops have been hurried forward during the whole period while Russia was pretending "diplomacy."

THE RUSSIAN TRICKERY.

The dilatory game is still to be played under the pretext of asking explanations from General Komaroff. His dispatch announcing the battle is known to have been received at St. Petersburg on Tuesday and probably much earlier. It was not published till Thursday, nine days after the event, though the telegraph extends to Merv 120 miles from Penjenh. Russian agents in London pretend that a fortnight will be required to send a message to General Komaroff and to receive an answer. In the meantime decorations and thanks have already been dispatched by telegraph from St. Petersburg to the officers and troops engaged.

THE EUROPEAN PRESS.

The Russian press under stringent censorship exults over the victory and teems with insults to and defiance of England.

The English press like the English public has lost neither head nor temper. While mostly regarding war as certain it abstains from provocation, contents itself with firmly insisting upon ample reparation for the outrage on the English allies and for a gross breach of a solemn engagement.

The continental press agrees with the English in considering General Komaroff's act a violation of faith and sides mostly with England, the French excepted, which joyfully seize the occasion to give vent to smoldering hatred. Berlin tries hard to believe in peace, but the press there is in the hands of speculators staggering under a load of Russian stocks, to whom war brings ruin.

A SLENDER HOPE OF PEACE.

If any hope of peace exists it lies probably with Prince Bismarck, who cannot wish to see the Berlin Bourse heavily in debt owing to the London collapse. Bankers say that a fall of ten in Russian stocks may sober even the Russian war party.

THE AMERICAN ATTITUDE.

The effect of the Afghan defeat on the American and India is perhaps the most important of all. English ministers have to consider not merely whether the Afghan and Russians are technically wrong on the banks of the Kushk, but, supposing that the Afghans are wrong, can England appear to abandon them without alienating the American, impairing her own prestige and convincing all Asia that Russian deeds are better guarantee than English pledges?

War preparations in England and India are pressed forward more vigorously than ever. The ministry declines to continue the boundary discussion pending explanations. No account of the negotiations between the Viceroy and the American has been allowed to appear but the durbar proved a brilliant success. The American's language is regarded by those who know Asia as a decisive proof of his complete accord with England, which remains undisturbed by the Afghan disaster on the Kushk.

EGYPTIAN INCIDENTS.

The most important incident in Egypt is the suppression of the *Boghros* in spite of French remonstrances. It will remain suppressed, Lord Wol-

ley arrives at Cairo to-morrow. Osman's force appears to have totally dissolved.

THE ROYAL PROGRESS.

All accounts agree that the Prince and Princess of Wales were received at Dublin with unbounded enthusiasm. Not a single untoward incident mars the rejoicings. The English consider Mr. Parnell's attempt to prevent a cordial demonstration a complete failure. The Parnellites are deeply chagrined. The English press insists that the visit promises to inflict a crushing blow to the National party.

THE REBELLION IN THE NORTHWEST.

THE MASSACRE AT FROG LAKE—ADVANCE OF THE DOMINION TROOPS.

WINNIPEG, April 11.—The latest news from Rattleford received this afternoon by the Hudson Bay Company, and sent by Indian Agent Rae, who is at that point, is that the Frog Lake eleven whites were massacred by Indians. J. K. Simpson and two men of the Hudson Bay Company are prisoners. The police and chief factor, McLean, of the Hudson Bay Company, at Fort Pitt, are fortifying themselves. A Regina dispatch states that Colonel Irvine and Assistant Commissioner Reid sent word from Prince Albert that all are well, only they are short of horse feed and are anxiously awaiting help. A command from front says that General Middleton's command is making good progress by Chief Crowfoot. A command from Medicine Hat dispatch says that the steamers Barons, Alberta and Minnow, with an accompaniment of twenty scows, have started this afternoon. Another battalion composed of Simcoe and York volunteers, arrived in Winnipeg this morning and are camped here, awaiting further orders. The Quebec battalion is behind them and will probably arrive to-morrow. Captain Whitlaw reported that hostile demonstrations among Indians have been making. Manitoba adjutant and that that portion of Manitoba adjoining them and in danger of a raid. Companies are being formed at De Lorne, Wakapau and Whitewater as a precautionary measure. A Calgary dispatch says: Governor Dewdney started for the East yesterday. The Government has renewed assurance of his loyalty. The Governor states that no Indians were crossed on the McLeod, but steps have been taken to place the fort in a position for defence.

ENGLAND, FRANCE AND EGYPT.

STAKIM, April 11.—Hasheen, recently the headquarters of Osman Digna's entire army, is now wholly deserted.

PARIS, April 11.—The Debats, commenting on the forcible suppression of the French newspaper, the *Boghros*, by the Egyptian and British officials at Cairo, writes: "It was a mistake that the act was an outrage. It was, continued, the Debats, 'a violation of our rights, and an act which demands reparation at any cost. England is more responsible.'"

FRENCH INTERESTS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

PARIS, April 11.—M. Billot, State Counsel, remains in the Foreign Department under the new Ministry. It is inferred from this that M. de Freycinet will make no change in the foreign policy of the Government.

THE NEW MINISTRY HAVE APPROVED THE PROJECT OF M. FERRY'S CABINET CONCERNING THE ENLARGEMENT OF THE SUEZ CANAL.

On the adjournment of the Chamber of Deputies to-day, it was resolved to suspend action on all pending bills until May 5. In French ministerial circles it is believed that the *serenitas de late* and the Corn Duty increase bills will be shelved. M. Henri Brisson, the President of the new council of ministers, is strongly opposed to the Corn bill, the prospect of the passage of which has already induced a price of wheat throughout France and has caused widespread popular discontent.

M. DE FREYCINET, IT IS STATED, DESIRES TO ABANDON THE FRENCH ENTERPRISE IN MADAGASCAR AND, IN ORDER TO DO SO, WOULD APPARENTLY RETREAT, PROPOSES TO MAKE A COMMERCIAL TREATY WITH THE HOVA. ADMIRAL GALLIER APPROVES THIS POLICY AND WILL DO HIS BEST TO SECURE ITS ADOPTION.

M. de Freycinet has given notice that he will propose in the Chamber of Deputies the ratification of the Egyptian financial convention agreed upon by France and the other interested powers with England. The convention is designed to form two divisions, to be under the command of General Courty, for service in Tonkin. Another division will remain in the south of Tonkin. The Egyptian Government has granted the French a decree informing the people that the French Government has agreed to make a commercial treaty with the Hova. Admiral Gallier approves this policy and will do his best to secure its adoption. The Egyptian Government has granted the French a decree informing the people that the French Government has agreed to make a commercial treaty with the Hova. Admiral Gallier approves this policy and will do his best to secure its adoption.

PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT OF GUATEMALA.

ST. LOUIS, April 11.—A correspondent of the *Globe-Democrat* telegraphs from the City of Mexico that news has been received there that the Congress of Guatemala has declared as Provisional President, General Aguilar. General Aguilar is a friend of President Barrios and for many years was his partner in business matters. General Barrios, Minister of War under the deceased dictator, continues to act in the same capacity. The country is in a state of civil war. The resolve to revenge his death has become the national cry. The City of Mexico, April 11.—The Government has ordered all military affairs have changed since a week ago, but in the middle of warfare preparations peace is now assured.

FISH TRADE WITH CANADA.

OTTAWA, April 11.—An influential deputation waited upon Mr. Pope, Acting Minister of Railways, and Mr. McLean, Minister of Marine and Fisheries, to-day, and presented a petition signed by sixty-one members of Parliament, setting forth that the Washington Treaty, which, in July and August, 1871, the Government has announced a duty to be imposed on fish imported from the United States. They ask the Ministers to give their attention to the subject, so that the Indian fish trade will be used to its utmost extent for the development of the fish trade.

THE SITUATION AT ASPINWALL.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Admiral Jonett telegraphs Mr. Whitney to-day from Colon as follows: The Tennessee arrived to-day. All well. I shall open transit to-morrow and keep it open. Everything is quiet here, but trouble is feared at Panama. I shall send 100 men to Panama to-morrow.

THE CITY OF PANA, WHICH LEFT NEW-YORK ON APRIL 3 WITH 202 MARRIAGES, ARRIVED AT ASPINWALL TO-DAY.

AN INFERNAL MACHINE FOR BISMARCK.

BERLIN, April 11.—A box addressed to Prince Bismarck excited the suspicions of the authorities at Frankfurt-on-Main. It was opened and it contained a dynamite machine of a new type and of skilful construction. There is nothing to indicate by whom the box was prepared or sent.

FRAGMENTS OF CABLE NEWS.

BRUSSELS, April 11.—On the reopening of the Belgian Chambers the Government will table the bill which gives King Leopold authority to assume the title of King of the Free State of Congo, with the seat of administration at Brussels.

VIENNA, April 11.—An inquiry into the charges against Baron Poter of selling plans of certain military works tends to show that his action was due to indiscretion rather than to criminal intent. A plot existed to secure and sell plans of Austrian and German fortresses, and the principal in the conspiracy was a Danish captain, one Sarsen, who has been arrested at Berlin. Several arrests have been made at Mayence, Schleswig and Berlin.

GREENSBORO, April 11.—The White Star Line steamer *Adriatic*, from Liverpool yesterday, passed the port this morning, bound for New-York. She has on board the cargo of the Germanic, which was compelled to put back to Liverpool owing to injury to the engine. On April 4, when 500 miles west of Fastnet, the *Adriatic* also has on board a number of the Germanic's passengers.

TOO EAGER FOR CHINESE POSTAGE STAMPS.

PORTLAND, OREGON, April 11.—Much annoyance has been experienced here recently by the tampering with Chinese letters in the post-office. As the superintendents are in Chinese characters and cannot be read by the postal officials, the mislives are placed in an open box in the lobby, so that the persons to whom they are addressed can pick out their own mail. Such is the popular greed for postage stamps, however, that boys have been in the habit of tearing them off when unobserved. Often the envelope with the address is destroyed, and sometimes the letters themselves are carried off. Measures have been taken to put a stop to this mischief.

TO SEE IF THE METERS ARE PROPERLY MADE.

PHILADELPHIA, April 11 (Special).—In consequence of frequent complaints of consumers that their gas bills are exorbitantly high, the trustees of the city have ordered an investigation into the meters of a firm who secured the contract to make the meters, to ascertain whether or not the workmen are skilled mechanics.

MISSIONARIES IN SIERRA LEONE.

EASTON, MD., April 11.—Mr. Leonidas Dodson has received a letter from his son, W. P. Dodson,

who is a member of Bishop Taylor's African Missionary party, dated Sierra Leone, where they arrived February 19. Mr. Dodson writes cheerfully in regard to their efforts and says that the whole party are in excellent health and are expected to return to England in about two weeks from February 19.

WARRANTS FOR MORE CHICAGO THIEVES.

CHICAGO, April 11 (Special).—The Republican City Campaign Committee to-day considered the proposed contest of Harrison's election. It was the general impression that the evidence was ample to convince any impartial court that Judge Smith has been elected by at least 1,000 majority. The committee expect to get more evidence in a few days. Judge Smith has determined that there shall be a contest. The Democratic Aldermen argue that they need not begin the count of the vote until June or July, that they need not declare the result for six months, and that the litigation on the question will extend over the remaining eighteen months of the Mayor's term. Some of the Aldermen who were defeated on Tuesday talk in this way. The Republicans declare that the contest will be decided in three months.

The Committee of Public Safety held a short session. Additional subscriptions were received to aid in procuring the trial committee. It was finally agreed to add to such citizens as should proceed against Harrison for usurpation and for the punishment of men who knowingly voted when they had no right to vote. The action of the committee was a direct and effective evidence against some of the repeaters and judges of the Ninth Ward to convict them. Agents of the Chicago Committee have been busy all day receiving reports from the outlying precincts of the Democratic wards. Reports were received from the sixth Ward, approved by some of the judges, showing considerable support for the Republican candidate received majorities varying from 300 to 600 in that ward. The police returns indicated a majority of 400 for the Democratic candidate. In the Twelfth Precinct of the same ward several persons voted in the names of dead men, invalids who could not go to the polls, and non-residents. Just before the appointed time, the Fourth Ward police returns give Harrison 132 and Smith 65. Harrison, it is claimed, received only 65 and Smith received 122. The results were sworn out this afternoon for the arrest of eight of the election judges of the Ninth Ward.

EXCITEMENT OVER THE BISHOP FAILURE.

NEW-YORK, April 11 (Special).—The reported failure of T. Brigham Bishop & Co., brokers, of New-York, who have a branch office in this city, caused some excitement here to-day. It is said that the firm is indebted in small sums to numerous local customers on account of the recent rise in wheat. The local manager went to New-York yesterday and returned out this afternoon for the arrest of eight of the election judges of the Ninth Ward.

NEW-YORK, Mass., April 11 (Special).—The branch office of T. Brigham Bishop & Co., New-York, in this city, was attached this afternoon by buyers here. On Thursday several thousand dollars were made by margin buyers who expected some \$9,000 yesterday which did not arrive.

A CONFEDERATE RELIEF BAZAAR.

BALTIMORE, April 11.—An exhibition and sale has been held for several days and evenings this week in the Fifth Regiment Armory here for the Confederate Relief Fund. Nearly all of the Southern States, including Maryland, were represented by tables, and the articles displayed were mostly associated with the late Confederacy, such as autograph letters of rebel generals, Jefferson Davis, and the great seal of the Confederacy. Many contributions were received, among them a big white rooster named "Grover Cleveland." Tea was served by pretty girls from cups painted with rebel flags. Many prizes were given for the best of the day. The Texas Regiment, much tattooed, and belonging to the State Archives of Texas, attracted much attention. Among the many visitors from out of town was W. W. Corcoran, of Washington.

WEDDED ON HER SICK BED.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—A wedding occurred here this week in which one of the participants lay ill in bed. Miss Annie L. Winder, formerly in the line of Engraving and Printing in the Treasury Department, was engaged to be married to Isaac H. Roberts, a grocer, Baltimore, by Judge before the appointed time. The young lady was taken ill with scarlet fever. Instead of postponing the ceremony, it was conducted in the sick-room, the minister leading the guests to that apartment. The invalid was lifted to a sitting posture for the service. The ceremony was performed by Judge before the appointed time. All the invited friends were informed of Miss Winder's illness, and many of them stayed away. Another ceremony will be held after the recovery.

FOUND WITH ANOTHER WIFE.

PITTSBURGH, April 11 (Special).—About twenty years ago Charles Boecking, an artist of Phillipsburg, thirty miles down the Ohio River, disappeared. His wife, Mary, who had married him, and it was supposed to be a case of desertion. Years passed by and Boecking was given up for dead. Mrs. Boecking, with her three children, two sons and a daughter, then moved to this city. A few days ago Boecking, Jr., now grown to manhood, was told that his father had married a Baltimore woman, and that he had been living with her. Boecking and the girl exchanged photographs confirming the rumor. The latter is now in New-York. His Pittsburgh family will let him stand as it is.

SENATOR SHERMAN BOPEFUL.

CINCINNATI, April 11.—Senator Sherman made a brief speech in the Chamber of Commerce to-day in which he said the signs of the times indicated a renewal of business prosperity. Referring to the new Administration, he said he believed that the President meant to insist on honesty and fidelity in the public service. He said he believed that the new Administration would be able to conform to honest business principles.

A BABE NARROWLY ESCAPES DEATH.

AUGUSTA, Ga., April 11.—The narrow escape of a tottering baby from death is reported from Stone Mountain. Engineer Goodwin, of a freight train, discovered the infant on the track ahead of him, and reversed his engine immediately, but headway was not checked before the train came up with the youngster. The baby, a girl, was thrown to the ground, and, however, ran away, and snatched it from between the rails just as the locomotive reached the spot. The child had wandered there from a neighboring trackman's house.

WRECK OF THE SCHOONER QUICKSTEP.

NEW-YORK, April 11 (Special).—The revenue cutter Dexter arrived here on Friday night with the spars, rigging and a portion of the stern of a sunken schooner that she fell in with about two miles southwest of Bartlett's reef lightship. An examination showed that the vessel was the *Quickstep* of New-York. It is believed that the accident resulted from a collision. No news of the crew.

SHALL NOT VIOLATE THE SABBATH.

PHILADELPHIA, April 11 (Special).—Mayor Smith has issued peremptory orders to the proprietors of the *City of Philadelphia*, to the proprietors of the *Frankford*, forbidding them to do their packing and other work preparatory to the spring campaign on Sundays and that all concerned will be arrested if the order is violated.

REPEALING A CHURCH LAW OF MARRIAGE.

CHARLESTON, April 11.—The Charleston Presbytery adopted to-day, by a large majority, the overture from the General Assembly of 1884, striking out from the Confession of Faith the following words: "The man may not marry any of his wife's kindred nearer in blood than he himself is." The overture of her husband's kindred nearer in blood than he himself is.

AN EARTHQUAKE FELT AT SEA.

PHILADELPHIA, April 11.—The Norwegian brig *Columbus*, from Maroon, reports that on March 22, in latitude 18° 22', longitude 45° 30', a severe earthquake shock was felt.

IN HONOR OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

PHILADELPHIA, April 11 (Special).—On Thursday evening a number of German societies will hold a memorial service commemorative of the death of Abraham Lincoln.

END OF A REAPER WORKS STRIKE.

CHICAGO, April 11.—The strike of the employees at McCormick's reaper works was ended to-day, the management offering to restore the wages, so that in all likelihood the 1,600 persons employed will return to work on Monday. The trial of the Pinkerton police for shooting one of the strikers has been postponed.

LEAVING HIS DEBTS BEHIND.

CINCINNATI, April 11.—Harry Baum, a young man engaged in the hide and leather business, has disappeared, leaving debts to the amount of \$12,000.

GUARDIAN FOR BLIND TOM.

COLUMBUS, Ga., April 11.—Under proceedings on an application of Blodgett before the Court of Ordinary at this place, Blind Tom, the blind pianist, was to-day placed under the guardianship of General James N. Bledsoe.

DAMAGES UNDER THE CIVIL RIGHTS LAW.

CHATTANOOGA, April 11.—In the United States District Court to-day, Judge D. M. Key presiding, a negro who was ejected from a first-class car on the Western and Atlantic Railroad, and passengers recovered judgment against the road for \$217.

EARL GRANVILLE'S DEMANDS.

FINAL PROPOSALS TO BARON DE STAAL.

INSISTING THAT THE Czar's FORCES MUST GO BACK TO SARI-YAZI.

LONDON, April 11.—The War Office is overwhelmed with offers of service sent in by army militia and volunteer officers. The recruiting depots in London and in the provinces are daily besieged by men anxious to enter the military service in view of the prospect of war. Suitable applicants are being accepted as rapidly as can be arranged. All the admirals of the navy have been told to hold themselves in readiness for active service. A special injunction has been sent by the Admiralty to Vice-Admiral Lord John Hay, commanding the British squadron in the Mediterranean, to hold himself and his fleet ready for service.

A determined and grave position has been assumed by the English Government toward Russia concerning the Penjenh incident. The Ministry, it appears, have been coerced by the aggressiveness of public opinion into a tardy, but evidently determined, attitude of pugnacity. At first Mr. Gladstone satisfied himself with demanding of Russia an explanation of General Komaroff's attack upon the Afghans. He felt sure, it is stated, that Russia was sincerely desirous of peace and would discontinue the action of the commander, no matter how thoroughly he might have represented the bellicose policy of the St. Petersburg war party. But when the Czar answered that he would explain to England as soon as General Komaroff explained to him, the British Premier was forced to conclude that the Czar was trifling to gain time.

To-day, therefore, Earl Granville advised Baron de Staal, Russian Ambassador to London, that the British Government had decided that whatever the nature of the Russian explanation of General Komaroff's action might be, Great Britain would not allow any further discussion concerning the limitation of the Afghan frontier to go on until the Russian troops have been withdrawn from their present outposts in the disputed territory back to the positions which they occupied at the time England appointed her part of the commission to adjust the Afghan frontier. As this was nearly a year ago, and as almost all of the Russian advance has been made in the interval, it is difficult to believe that Russia will seriously attempt to reach an amicable understanding.

Count von Munster, the German Ambassador to London, is given as authority for a significant utterance on the part of the British Ministers. The German Minister states that at a conference upon the Afghan situation held yesterday Earl Granville declared that England had resolved that it was impossible to consent to a continuance of diplomatic discussion with Russia unless England was guaranteed security against having the results of the controversy imperilled by collisions on the disputed frontier such as had occurred on the Kushk. England, Lord Granville said, must refuse to accept Russia's assurance that she desires peace, unless the assurance was accompanied by a withdrawal of troops to a line drawn from Tepl to Sari-Yazi. At the German and Russian Embassies here the opinion is expressed that the dispute between the Czar and Great Britain has actually reached its final phase in diplomacy. M. de Giers, Russian Prime Minister, through Baron de Staal, has offered to abandon the Russian proposal to extend the line of the debatable zone proposed by England so as to include the Pampanian Mountains, and recur to the line suggested in the Lesser proposals. This offer on the part of the Russian Premier, while apparently containing a concession, is considered to be really a ruse to modify the effects of General Komaroff's attack and to gain time. The Lesser line, while within the Pampanian line, would hardly be acceptable to English statesmen, although the proposal could be made to appear to the British public as a retreat on the part of Russia.

As Earl Granville's demand for the withdrawal of the Russian troops was telegraphed to Sir Edward Thornton at St. Petersburg after the receipt of M. de Giers's proposal, it is inferred that the Russian Premier's overture has not met with acceptance, and has made no impression upon the English Government. Both Russia and England are busily engaged in correspondence with other Powers and are actively courting alliances. If the English negotiations with Turkey succeed, the most important immediate result will be the opening of the Dardanelles to the British fleet. The recent mail advices from India differ significantly from the official telegrams recently received concerning the loyalty to England of the native chiefs and people. The official dispatches, it is seen, have been unwarrantably rose-colored. They have, without exception, declared that the Indian princes were impatient to display their loyalty to England by rushing to battle against the Russians. Mail advices, however, indicate the contrary. The *Delhi Herald* advocates a levy of all able-bodied men. The *Kurrachee Times* urges that a council of war composed of native princes be called to meet at Calcutta to adopt a war policy. It also advises that this council offer 400,000 troops to the Indian Government to resist Russia. The *Madras Hindoo* predicts that the struggle against Russia cannot be successful unless India be armed to assist England. Most of the other native organs discuss the situation in much the same terms. It will be observed that all these Indian papers clamor for a general Indian armament and for the formation of a native Indian volunteer army. Other Indian papers, which may be more under official influence, urge the formation of an Anglo-Indian force as preferable to a purely Indian corps, unless the latter be officered by Englishmen. It is plain from all this that while there exists among the people of India a strong national feeling in favor of war against any Russian invasion of India, the Indians associate a claim of equal political rights with the national defence, and do not look upon themselves as mere dependents upon Great Britain. It is difficult to estimate at present just how prevalent and strong this feeling of national independence really is, but many shrewd foreigners in India suspect that it is sufficiently prevalent and strong to prove dangerous if too far ignored by Great Britain. General Stewart, in anticipation of instructions to advance his entire Indian command, has ordered an advance by way of Quetta of the artillery corps now stationed in the Kohat, Peshawar and Hazar districts. The utmost secrecy is maintained about the movements of the British troops in India. The press correspondents at Lahore and in the Punjab are refused all information about army orders. It has, however, been ascertained that a number of detachments have already left on the route to Quetta. The English and native Indian troops appear to be greatly enlivened by the prospect of war with Russia. They will be intensely disappointed if a peace be arranged. News has been received from Odessa by way of Yarna that transport services on the Black Sea are busily absorbed in the work of carrying troops and munitions of war from Sebastopol and Nicoloff to Batoum and Poti. Immense earthworks are being constructed for the defence of Batoum and Nicoloff. The new works of defence at Sebastopol have been for the present suspended.

Earl Northbrook, First Lord of the British Admiralty, has been in consultation of all the English naval warlike preparations. He now holds daily conferences with Admirals Cooper,

Key, Brandreth and Richards. The purchases of swift cruisers and the construction of torpedo boats have been increased. The list of Atlantic steamships under English control which have been secured for Government use in view of war at present embraces the *Ariadne* and *Atika*, of the *Gulion* line; the *Oregon*, *Etruria*, *Imperial* and *Australia*, of the *Cunard* line; the *City of Rome*, of the *Anchor* line, and the *China*, of the *National* line. Besides these the China clippers *Sterling*, *Castile*, and the *Austral* of the *Archipelago* line have been chartered. The Admiralty have decided to organize a great cruiser service of swift vessels. From this fact it is conjectured that the Government intend to repudiate the declaration of the Treaty of Paris concerning privateering. A part of the British squadron stationed in Chinese waters has been ordered to rendezvous at Point Hamilton Island, the island in the Chinese Archipelago recently taken possession of by England. As Point Hamilton commands the entrance to the Sea of Japan and largely commands the way to the Russian ports on the Pacific, this order has been issued, it is believed, with a view to attack Vladivostok, if war with Russia be declared.

CHEERING THE Czar IN ST. PETERSBURG.

THE MINISTER OF WAR ASSERTS THAT THE RUSSIANS WILL NEVER RETIRE.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 11.—The Czar and Czarina and the members of the royal family attended a concert this evening at the Grand Theatre in this city for the benefit of invalid soldiers. The presence of the Czar aroused the greatest enthusiasm. The national anthem was sung by the whole audience, and when the Czar advanced to the front of his box and bowed his thanks he was greeted with a hurricane of cheers. The cheering was continued outside the theatre, and the royal party was followed by crowds of people to the gates of the palace.

The Minister of War, speaking to a circle of officers to-night, said he had the assurance of the Czar that the Russian troops might advance, but they would never retire.

RUSSIAN COMMENTS ON BRITISH POLICY.

CRITICISING THE DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT—ARREST OF AYOUB KHAN.

ST. PETERSBURG, April 11.—The *Journal de St. Petersburg*, speaking evidently by official inspiration, comments upon the recent Government utterances in the British Parliament upon the Penjenh incident as premature. It says it thinks that it would have been preferable for the English Ministers to have suspended judgment until the receipt of more complete information. They should have acted on the supposition that it was unlikely that Russian generals acquainted with the intentions of the Russian Government acted without good reason. They should have borne in mind that collisions such as that which occurred on the Kushk are always possible in the presence of a violent and undisciplined Asiatic population. The Penjenh incident, concludes the *Journal*, was certainly an untoward event, because it may adversely affect the negotiations pending between Russia and England which still justify the hope for peace.

BERLIN, April 11.—It is reported here that Turkey has decided, under Prince Bismarck's advice, to remain neutral in case of war.

TEHRAN, April 11.—Ayoub Khan, the ex-Amyr of Afghanistan, who has been living for some time on a pension of \$1,750 a month from the British Government, has again tried to leave Persia for Afghanistan. The British Minister has kept a close watch upon him ever since his return to this city, after his attempt several months ago to leave Persia, and has redoubled his vigilance since the Russo-Afghan difficulty began. Learning from letters which he fell into his hands that the Ayer was again planning to escape to Afghanistan, the British Minister complained to the Shah. The latter arrested Ayoub, and has confined him in the citadel. Persian officials have taken possession of Ayoub's household.

RAWALPINDI, April 11.—General Stewart has gone to Simla. The Ayer will go to Peshawar to-morrow and will remain there for some time. The military preparations have been completed. Lord Dufferin held another review of the troops to-day.

PARIS, April 11.—The *Temps* believes that Russia has instructed her representative at the Suez Canal Conference to ask whether England will maintain the *Dardanelles* not as a European engagement, but simply as an agreement with the Sultan;